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## **Akin Wins Round for C-17 in House Armed Services**

Advocates for Boeing Aircraft on CNN's Anderson Cooper

Congressman Todd Akin took a prominent role in advocating for Boeing's C-17 as the military's premier transport aircraft. After learning that Congressman Akin had spearheaded the inclusion of \$2.42 billion for ten C-17s in the House Armed Services 2008 Defense Authorization, CNN interviewed Akin as to the need for the Boeing C-17.

During the interview Congressman Akin noted that the C-17 was 80 percent mission capable and is critical for the projection of force by our military and essential in the flying of humanitarian missions. "Boeing's C-17 has outperformed expectations and will continue to be integral part of our military and its mission capability," said Akin.

Earlier this year, Boeing had stated that it was starting the process of closing the C-17 line due to a lack of future military procurement. Recently Boeing has stated that it does not plan to close the line due to recent developments. The C-17 line employs almost two thousand workers in Missouri. With no clear replacement for the C-17 Congressman Akin noted the tremendous cost of trying to restart production of the C-17's.

## **Akin Says No to Amnesty**

Congressman Akin remains firmly committed to opposing amnesty for illegal aliens and has gone on record as to his opposition to the immigration bill being debated in the Senate. "To a vast majority of my constituents, meaningful reform is not to be found in legislation, but in actual enforcement of the immigration laws we already have." The Heritage Foundation projects that it will cost U.S. taxpayers an estimated \$2.5 trillion to cover the retirement cost of illegal aliens over a twenty year period. This \$2.5 trillion price tag is likely to come due at a time when the Social Security and Medicare systems are facing bankruptcy.

Akin noted that "To offer any form of amnesty to those who have violated our immigration laws would only invite further disregard for US immigration policy and thus encourage future violations of law and promote the very hardships often noted by supporters of the Senate amnesty bill."

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